

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

### ***Status of the Application***

In the August 25, 2005, Non-Final Office Action, claim 5 was allowed; claims 2, 3, and 7 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims; and claims 1, 4, 6, and 8-9 were rejected.

In the present Response, claims 2 and 6-9 were canceled without prejudice, claims 1 and 3 were amended, and claims 10-13 were added.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claim 2 and to clarify that the high-speed rotary coating device, and not the electrode ring, comprises a high-speed rotary bell. While Applicant believes that one of ordinary skill would understand that electrode ring did not comprise the high-speed rotary bell (see, e.g., figure 2 of Applicant's specification), the language in the claim has been amended to prevent any confusion.

Claim 3 was amended to change its dependency from canceled claim 2 to claim 1. Claim 3 was also amended for clarity purposes.

Claim 10, dependent on allowed claim 5, incorporates the limitations of claim 4. Applicant respectfully submits that, because claim 10 is a dependent upon allowed claim 5, claim 10 should also be allowable.

Claims 11-13 correspond to canceled claims 6-8, with claim 11 including additional description of the electrode ring taken from allowed claim 5, specifically that the electrode ring "is positioned around the central axis of the bell, is connected to the housing of the bell with a fastening device, and is capable of performing rotational movements around the central axis of rotation of the bell, said electrode ring having electrode fingers attached thereto comprising electrode tips." Claim 11 also includes an actual process step, "coating a substrate", which was not found in original claim 6 (see page 3, lines 17-23, for support).

Thus, claims 1, 3-5, and 10-13 are pending. No new matter was added.

***Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> Paragraph***

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, as failing to point and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention. Claim 1 has been amended to change the phrase “the high-speed rotary coating device” to “a high-speed rotary coating device” thus obviating the lack of antecedent basis in the claim.

***Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)***

Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wacker *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4, 887,770) in view of Furuoya (U.S. Patent No. 6,352,589) in further view of Brock *et al.*, “European Coating Handbook”, Vincentz Verlag (Hannover, Germany, 2000), page 295, lines 27-28.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 therein. Because claim 2 was allowable except for the fact that it was dependent on a rejected base claim, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is patentable over Wacker *et al.* in view of Furuoya in further view of Brock *et al.* The other changes made to claim 1 were for clarity purposes only and should not affect the patentability of the claim. Further, because claims 3-4 depend from claim 1, these claims should now be allowable.

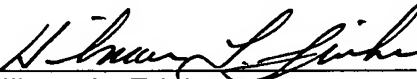
New claim 11, corresponding to canceled claim 6, includes the following changes from claim 6: (1) an actual process step has been added to claim 11 and (2) the description of the electrode ring now reflects language in allowed claim 5. Because the description of the electrode ring now tracks allowed claim 5, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 is patentable over Wacker *et al.* in view of Furuoya in further view of Brock *et al.*

Because claims 12-13 are dependent claims, which recite even further limitations to the claim that has already been traversed, Applicant relies upon the arguments presented above in rebuttal to the Examiner’s assertion that claims 12-13 are unpatentable.

***Summary***

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. In order to expedite disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number below to resolve any remaining issues. Should there be a fee due which is not accounted for, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,

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